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OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR TOWN OF SOUTHOLD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 4, 2020

Contact: Southold Town Supervisor Scott A. Russell

Re: COVID-19 Testing Sites in Suffolk County

Supervisor Russell is pleased to announce that Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone has agreed to the request of the Suffolk County Supervisor's Association to establish COVID-19 testing sites throughout Suffolk County. This is an encouraging first step. We will continue to urge the County for the creation of more convenient testing sites closer to our residents on the East End.

Further information on the testing locations can be found on the attached announcement from the County Executive.

Contact: Press.Office@Suffolkcountyny.gov

SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE BELLONE ANNOUNCES NEARLY 100 COVID-19 TESTING SITES ACROSS THE COUNTY

Free <u>Testing Available</u> at More Than 20 Locations in Suffolk

County to Launch PSA Campaign for COIVD-19 Testing Sites for Residents

In light of Perplexing CDC Announcement, County Executive Bellone Reiterates the Importance of Testing and Encourages Residents to Go Get Tested

As testing continues to be a vital tool in combatting the COVID-19 pandemic, Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone today announced nearly 100 locations across the County are offering COVID-19 diagnostic testing, antibody testing, and rapid testing. The County will launch a comprehensive Public Service Awareness Campaign to provide residents with updated information on testing locations, including sites that are free of charge.

Earlier this week, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released updated guidance declaring that individuals do not necessarily need to get tested for COVID-19 after coming in contact with someone who has tested positive. This new guidance contradicts earlier guidelines and is inconsistent with what has proven to be successful in slowing and containing the spread of COVID-19. In light of this announcement and as we approach the fall season, County Executive Bellone today reiterated the importance of a robust testing and contact tracing program, and encouraged anyone who might have been exposed to the virus to go get tested.

"From day one, we have prioritized access to testing, especially in our hard hit communities, and as we continue on our path to recovery, Suffolk County now has more testing sites than ever before," said Suffolk County Executive Bellone. "In light of the puzzling CDC guidance released this week, I am proud to stand with Governor Cuomo and others in the medical community to encourage our residents to continue to get tested. If we want to avoid a second wave and keep our infection rate below one percent, testing must be a top priority."

"A robust testing program allows us to identify as many positive cases as possible, isolate those individuals and quarantine their close contacts, therefore slowing and containing the spread of COVID-19," said Commissioner of Health Services Dr. Gregson Pigott. "In order to protect public health and help prevent a second wave in the fall, we will continue to recommend everyone who is exposed to the virus gets tested."

To date, more than 635,000 individuals have been tested for COVID-19 in the County, with more than 7,000 individuals tested yesterday alone. While Suffolk County was once the epicenter of the COVID-19 outbreak, for the eighth day in a row, the County has experienced a positive rate of under one percent. Additionally, earlier this week Suffolk County saw a percent positive rate of 0.4, the lowest percent positive experienced to date.

A list of free testing sites can be found below:

- CVS Pharmacy, 107 South Country Road, Bellport, NY 11713
- CVS Pharmacy, Candlewood Road and 5th Avenue, Brentwood, NY 11717
- CVS Pharmacy, 311 Main Street, Center Moriches, NY 11934
- CVS Pharmacy, 2315 Middle Country Road, Centereach, NY 11720

- CVS Pharmacy, 1710 Route 112, Coram, NY 11727
- CVS Pharmacy, 520 Larkfield Road, East Northport, NY 11731
- CVS Pharmacy, 2000 Jericho Turnpike, East Northport, NY 11731
- CVS Pharmacy, 111 Depot Road, Huntington Station, NY 11746
- CVS Pharmacy, 831 Connetquot Avenue, Islip Terrace, NY 11752
- CVS Pharmacy, 470 West Main Street, Patchogue, NY 11772
- CVS Pharmacy, 729 Portion Road, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779
- CVS Pharmacy, 29 Havenwood Drive, Shirley NY 11967
- CVS Pharmacy, 977 Jericho Turnpike, Smithtown, NY 11725
- CVS Pharmacy, 111 Terry Road, Smithtown, NY 11787
- CVS Pharmacy, 6221 Route 25A, Wading River, NY 11792
- CVS Pharmacy, 105 Montauk Highway, West Sayville, NY 11782
- CVS Pharmacy, 496 County Road 111 Building C, Manorville, NY 11949
- CVS Pharmacy, 450 Main Street, Farmingdale, NY 11735
- Rite Aid, 803 Montauk Hwy Unit D, Shirley, NY
- Rite Aid, 229 Independence Plaza, Selden, NY
- Walgreens, 1580 Route 112, Medford, NY 11763
- Stony Brook Drive Through Testing Site, 100 Nicolls Rd, Stony Brook, NY 11794

Additionally, any resident looking for a testing site near them can visit the New York State Department of Health's Website here for a comprehensive list of available locations. Residents with any questions are encouraged to call Suffolk 311.

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